

REMARKS

Claims 5-7 and 38-54 are pending in the application. Upon entry of the Amendment, claims 5 and 39 will be pending.

Support for the amendment to claim 5 may be found in canceled claim 6.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the helpful telephonic conference on November 20, 2007.

No new matter has been added and entry is respectfully requested.

I. Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §103 – sustained rejection

At paragraph 7 of the Office Action, claims 5, 7 and 38 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 for the reasons of record.

Applicants note that the monoclonal antibody recited in claim 6 is allowable subject matter. Furthermore, in the instant Amendment, claim 5 has been amended to recite the monoclonal antibody, and claims 7 and 38 have been canceled. In view of these amendments to the claims, this rejection is moot and Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

II. Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §112

A. At paragraph 9 of the Office Action, claim 38 remains rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as being non-enabled, and claims 44 and 51 are subject to the same rejection.

Included herewith is an amendment to the claims such that claims 38, 44 and 51 have been canceled. In view of these amendments to the claims, this rejection is moot and Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

B. At paragraph 10 of the Office Action, claims 41-44 and 48-51 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as lacking written description support in the specification as filed.

Included herewith is an amendment to the claims such that claims 41-44 and 48-51 have been canceled. In view of these amendments to the claims, this rejection is moot and Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

C. At the second paragraph 10 of the Office Action, claims 41-44 and 48-51 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as being non-enabled.

Included herewith is an amendment to the claims such that claims 41-44 and 48-51 have been canceled. In view of these amendments to the claims, this rejection is moot and Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

III. Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §103 – new rejection

At paragraph 11 of the Office Action, claims 41, 43, 44, 48, 50 and 51 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Gibbons in view of Harlow.

Included herewith is an amendment to the claims such that claims 41, 43, 44, 48, 50 and 51 have been canceled. In view of these amendments to the claims, this rejection is moot and Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request a Notice of Allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

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Respectfully submitted,

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Patent & Trademark Office

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-4. (cancelled).

1. (currently amended) An isolated monoclonal antibody which binds to SEQ ID NO:1.

6-38. (cancelled).

2. 39. (withdrawn - currently amended) A method of screening a sample for a polypeptide consisting of ~~comprising~~ the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, said method comprising:

- (a) contacting a test sample with the antibody of claim 5, and
- (b) detecting binding of said antibody to said polypeptide, thereby screening a sample for a polypeptide consisting of ~~comprising~~ the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

40-54. (cancelled).